

WE CLAIM:

1. In a computing system, a method for ensuring compatibility between an operating system and a BIOS redirection component, the method comprising:

in conjunction with the execution of the BIOS redirection component, determining whether the operating system has allocated resources in a manner that indicates that a conflict between the BIOS redirection component and the operating system may occur; and

in response to determining that the operating system has allocated resources in a manner that indicates that a conflict may occur, preemptively releasing resources allocated to the BIOS redirection component to eliminate the possible conflict.

2. The method of Claim 1, wherein determining whether the operating system has allocated resources in a manner that indicates that a conflict between the BIOS redirection component and the operating system may occur comprises monitoring the contents of a memory location within the computing system to determine if the operating system has written to the memory location.

3. The method of Claim 2, wherein the memory location is utilized to store at least a portion of an interrupt vector table.

4. The method of Claim 3, wherein preemptively releasing resources allocated to the BIOS redirection component to eliminate the conflict comprises releasing one or more software interrupts utilized by the BIOS redirection component.

5. The method of Claim 4, wherein preemptively releasing resources allocated to the BIOS redirection component to eliminate the conflict further comprises releasing one or more hardware interrupts utilized by the BIOS redirection component.

6. The method of Claim 5, wherein the BIOS redirection component is operative to redirect screen displays generated by the computing system to a remote terminal and to receive input from the remote terminal and provide the input to the computing system.

7. A computer-readable medium having stored thereon computer executable instructions which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform the method of Claim 1.

8. A computer-controlled apparatus capable of performing the method of Claim 1.

9. In a computing system, a method for ensuring compatibility between an operating system and a BIOS redirection component, the method comprising:

examining one or more BIOS settings to determine if a BIOS redirection function is enabled for continued use within the computing system;

in response to determining that the BIOS redirection function is enabled for continued use, executing the BIOS redirection component;

in conjunction with the execution of the BIOS redirection component, determining whether the operating system has allocated resources in a manner that indicates that a conflict between the BIOS redirection component and the operating system may be imminent; and

in response to determining that the operating system has allocated resources in a manner that indicates that a conflict may be imminent, preemptively releasing resources allocated to the BIOS redirection component in a manner to eliminate the possibility of a conflict.

10. The method of Claim 9, wherein determining whether the operating system has allocated resources in a manner that indicates that a conflict between the BIOS redirection component and the operating system may occur comprises monitoring

the contents of a memory location within the computing system to determine if the operating system has overwritten the memory location.

11. The method of Claim 10, wherein preemptively releasing resources allocated to the BIOS redirection component comprises releasing one or more software interrupts utilized by the BIOS redirection component.

12. The method of Claim 11, wherein preemptively releasing resources allocated to the BIOS redirection component further comprises releasing one or more hardware interrupts utilized by the BIOS redirection component.

13. The method of Claim 12, wherein the memory location is utilized to store at least a portion of an interrupt vector table.

14. The method of Claim 13, wherein the BIOS redirection component is operative to redirect screen displays generated by the computing system to a remote terminal and to receive input from the remote terminal and provide the input to the computing system.

15. A computer-readable medium having stored thereon computer executable instructions which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform the method of Claim 9.

16. A computer-controlled apparatus capable of performing the method of Claim 9.